

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-95. (canceled)

96. (currently amended): A method to prepare actinomycete cells [[a-cell]] containing at least one nucleic acid molecule, wherein said molecule comprises at least one module that encodes a modular polyketide synthase (PKS) functional in catalyzing the synthesis of a polyketide, said module comprising at least one nucleotide sequence which encodes a PKS acyl transferase (AT) activity; at least one nucleotide sequence which encodes a PKS ketoacyl carrier protein synthase (KS) activity; and at least one nucleotide sequence which encodes a PKS acyl carrier protein (ACP) activity;

said module operatively linked to a control sequence, whereby a functional modular PKS is produced in said cells [[cell]], with the proviso that said module or said control sequence is heterologous to [[the]] host cells [[cell]];

said method comprising introducing said nucleic acid molecule into [[a]] host cells [[cell]].

97. (previously presented): The method of claim 96 wherein said introduced nucleic acid molecule and optionally additional nucleic acid molecules comprise a complete modular PKS gene cluster.

98. (currently amended): The method of claim 96 wherein said host cells have cell has been modified so as completely to lack a PKS gene cluster normally present in the unmodified said host cell.

99. (currently amended): The method of claim 98 wherein said host cells are cell is *S. coelicolor*.

100. (previously presented): The method of claim 96 wherein said module comprises:
at least one nucleotide sequence encoding PKS ketoreductase (KR) activity; or

at least one nucleotide sequence encoding PKS ketoreductase (KR) activity and
at least one nucleotide sequence encoding PKS dehydratase (DH) activity; or

at least one nucleotide sequence encoding PKS ketoreductase (KR) activity and
at least one nucleotide sequence encoding PKS dehydratase (DH) activity, and
at least one nucleotide sequence encoding PKS enoyl reductase (ER) activity; and

optionally,
at least one nucleotide sequence encoding PKS thioesterase (TE) activity.

101. (previously presented): the method of claim 100 wherein said module comprises:
at least one nucleotide sequence encoding PKS ketoreductase (KR) activity and
at least one nucleotide sequence encoding PKS dehydratase (DH) activity; and
at least one nucleotide sequence encoding PKS enoyl reductase (ER) activity.

102-115. (canceled)